

**Governmental Affairs Committee
Regular Meeting
August 11, 2005 – 1:00 p.m.
Tribal Office Board Room**

1. Call to Order & Roll Call-

Committee Chairperson Laurie Boivin called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Those present: Karen Washinawatok and Jeremy Weso. Those absent: Kathy Kaquatosh, Ben Kaquatosh, Bob Lansing and Marci Hawpetoss. There was NOT a quorum present.

Motion made by Jeremy Weso to recess the meeting until 1:30 pm to see if any other committee members show up. Motion was seconded by Karen Washinawatok. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 2-for, 0-opposed, 4-absent. Motion carried.

Committee members waited until 1:30 and no other committee members showed up for the meeting.

Motion made by Jeremy Weso to recess the meeting until August 17, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. Motion was seconded by Karen Washinawatok. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying, 2-for, 0-opposed, 4-absent. Motion carried.

Meeting recessed at 1:35 p.m.

**Governmental Affairs Committee
Recessed Regular Meeting
August 16, 2005 – 2:30 p.m.
Tribal Office Board Room**

The meeting reconvened at 2:35 pm. Committee Secretary Kathy Kaquatosh called the meeting back to order. Those present: Karen Washinawatok, Bob Lansing, Jeremy Weso and Ben Kaquatosh. Committee Chairperson Laurie Boivin and Marci Hawpetoss were absent. Also present for the meeting was Dan Maine and Ben Butler.

2. Moment of Silence-A moment of silence was observed.

3. Review Minutes Dated May 12 and July 14, 2005-

Motion made by Jeremy Weso to approve the minutes of May 12 and July 14, 2005. Motion was seconded by Bob Lansing. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 3-for, 0-opposed, 1-abstention (Karen Washinawatok), 2-absent. Motion carried.

4. Discuss/Action on Request for Proposals/Judgment Funds-

Jeremy presented the document that he finished. The committee members liked the document and made a few minor changes.

Motion made by Ben Kaquatosh to accept the Notice of Funding Available Announcement with changes as indicated and send to the Menominee Tribal Legislature for approval. Motion was seconded by Bob Lansing. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 3-for, 0-opposed, 1-abstention (Karen Washinawatok), 2-absent. Motion carried.

5. Discuss/Action on Amendment to Ordinance 82-10 Tribal Preference-

Ben informed the committee that according to Ordinance 82-10 there needs to be an Administrative Review Committee in place to hear the 82-10 complaints. Ben just received an 82-10 complaint and needs a committee to hear the complaint.

Motion made by Ben Kaquatosh to table Ordinance 82-10 discussion until the end of the agenda. Motion was seconded by Jeremy Weso. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 4-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

6. Update on Wage Deduction Policy-

Rob Orcutt from the Program Attorney's Office was working on the policy and the committee still hasn't heard from him.

Motion made by Karen Washinawatok to table. Motion was seconded by Bob Lansing. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 4-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

7. Discuss/Action on Rules of Procedure-

Committee members decided that they would like to have the Rules of Procedure discussed when it is on a computer projected on the wall so the changes can be made as they are discussed.

Motion made by Ben Kaquatosh to table until next meeting. Motion was seconded by Jeremy Weso. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 4-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

8. Discuss/Action on Ordinance 95-04 Tribal Government Plan-

Committee discussed the flow chart and come of the changes that need to be made. Jeremy stated that he will go through and make the obvious changes like changing all the committee's to having at least 2 Legislators on the committee and adding the community member to each committee etc. Committee would also like to see a draft of verbiage on jurisdiction.

No action was taken. Committee will discuss more at the next meeting.

9. Discuss/Action on Short Term Disability-

Dan stated that he was asked to look into getting Short Term Disability (STD) insured. Currently the STD is self funded by the tribe. The reason some would like to see the STD insured is because once an employee is put on STD, 67% of their wages come out of their department's budget and therefore that department is unable to hire anyone to take the place of that employee because the cost would be too much on the budget. Ben Butler of Virchow Krause looked into the issue and recommends that the Tribe keep it self funded. The Tribe on average pays \$150,000 per year on STD claims and to insure it, the cost would go up to at least \$216,467 per year.

Committee asked Ben Butler to come up with more figures on STD. Committee will discuss the issue when Ben is ready with the figures.

Ben Butler explained to the committee that the Tribe currently has AIG for the Life/AD&D and if the Tribe doesn't switch companies the cost will go up from \$76,749 to \$97,680. Ben looked at three other companies which are Hartford, Standard and Unimerica. Ben is suggesting that the Tribe go with Unimerica because coverage and payments would basically stay the same.

Motion made by Ben Kaquatosh to recommend to the Menominee Tribal Legislature that the Tribe change coverage of Life/AD&D from AIG to Unimerica effective September 1, 2005. Motion was seconded by Bob Lansing. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 4-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

Ben Butler and Dan Maine also discussed with the committee Long Term Disability (LTD) and Voluntary Life Insurance. The Tribe has an opportunity to offer the benefit of employees purchasing additional life insurance. Ben Butler also suggested that the Tribe go with Unimerica for these services because they offer the best rates.

Ben and Dan both agreed that this opportunity would be great to add to the benefit package and it wouldn't cost the tribe anything. If the tribe decides to go along with this, Ben and Unimerica will hold meetings with employees to educate them on the opportunities.

Motion made by Jeremy Weso to recommend that the Menominee Tribal Legislature go with Unimerica for Voluntary Life Insurance and for Voluntary Long Term Disability and that it become effective on October 1, 2005. Motion was seconded by Bob Lansing. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 4-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

Committee went back to discuss Ordinance 82-10

Motion made by Jeremy Weso to recommend that the Tribal Chairman or Vice-Chairperson appoint the requisite number of committee members to the Administrative Review Committee at his/her earliest convenience. Motion was seconded by Ben Kaquatosh. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 4-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

- 10. Other Business-**
No other business was discussed.

- 11. Adjournment-**

Motion made by Ben Kaquatosh to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Bob Lansing. All those in favor of the motion signify by saying aye, 4-for, 0-opposed, 2-absent. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Legislative Staff Services